

**IN THE CLAIMS**

Please add the following new claim.

- Q1
47. A method for screening candidate compounds capable of inhibiting HMGI biological activity which comprises the steps of :
- (a) immobilizing an HMGI protein, or a fragment thereof, on a solid surface;
  - (b) incubating the HMGI protein, or a fragment thereof, with a candidate compound under conditions which promote optimal interaction; and
  - (c) identifying candidate compounds which bind to the HMGI protein, or a fragment thereof; and
  - (d) measuring the binding affinity of the candidate compounds in step (c);
  - (e) transfecting into a cell a DNA construct which contains a reporter gene under the control of an HMGI protein-regulated promoter;
  - (f) administering to the cell a candidate compound from step (c);
  - (g) measuring the levels of reporter gene expression in the presence and absence of the candidate compound; and
  - (h) determining from the levels of reporter gene expression which candidate compounds modulate the HMGI biological activity.

Please cancel claims 41-44.